

Retroviral Vector & Retroviral Vector Modified Cells

Hazards: Retroviral Vectors are viruses that can infect human cells but cannot replicate (make more of themselves). They are used to genetically modify cells. Cells are typically modified in the laboratory, prior to animal administration. Sometimes, the vector is directly administered to the animals.

Risks: After administration to the animals, the risk of exposure to retroviral vector modified cells and retroviral vector from handling the animals during cage change or bedding disposal is low.

Precautions: Wear PPE during cage changes (gloves, gown, and booties). Use a biosafety cabinet during cage changes. Follow ABSL-2 procedures for bedding disposal. Wash hands after work.

Emergency Response: In the event of an accidental needlestick, stop working, wash the injured area for 15 minutes, tell your supervisor, and report to Occupational Medicine. If you are working in this area and develop symptoms, tell your supervisor and report to Occupational Medicine. Potential exposures and illnesses must be reported to EHRS by your supervisor or manager.